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29 Dec 1982

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REMARKS

Pete,

Attached is the response prepared by Directorate of Operations' Evaluation and Program Design Staff to questions on CRAFT posed by the SSCI in its FY 1983 Report (pp. 47-48). Please send this response to

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

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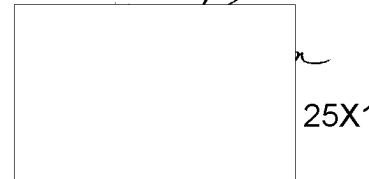
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CIA Response
to
Congressionally Directed Action
on CRAFT

S E C R E T

SUBJECT: Response to concerns of the Senate Select
Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) concerning
CRAFT

I. Concern: Planned capabilities for CRAFT terminals do not provide an ability to read more than one document at a time, or to read and write simultaneously. This suggests the security goal of reducing station file holdings could inadvertently be compromised by the perceived need for supplemental paper copies of certain documents. Please provide the Committee an assessment of the feasibility and cost effectiveness of incorporating a split-screen, read-and-write capability into the CRAFT system.

Response: A split screen/simultaneous read-write feature would certainly be a desirable addition to the CRAFT configuration, and the commercial supplier of the systems to be employed by CRAFT has been formally queried to determine the technical and economic feasibility of providing this capability. Citing corporate interests and other design commitments as reasons, the vendor's response indicated that, even with Government funding, they do not consider it a viable enhancement at this time. Because of the complexity of the needed hardware/software modifications and the vendor's proprietary policy, it would not be feasible for the Agency to undertake the development of the capability in question. Further, the vendor has voiced concern that this feature could adversely impact on system performance. This issue is not considered closed, however, and the Agency will continue to monitor developments that would allow the implementation of these capabilities.

The security goals of the program are not, however, considered to be in jeopardy if the split screen feature is not included. The system can accommodate, with relative ease, the paging between documents. Although not as convenient as a split screen, it will enable the user to move from a document being created or reviewed to other documents in the system and back to the original document with just a few key strokes. Further, if the need for a multi-screen becomes paramount, it may well be more cost effective to use a second workstation that would provide full search and review capability for reference documents without costly and time-consuming development and the potential for system performance degradation.

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